ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TOWN OF WESTFORD.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 11, 1854.

TREASURER'S OFFICE,
WESTFORD, February 9th, 1854.

The Committee chosen to reckon and settle with the Town Treasurer, for the year ending at date, submit the following Report:—

Balance in Ephraim Wright's hands at the settlement, February 10th, 1853,	$971 47
Other receipts,	71 32
Amounting to	$1,042 79

PAYMENTS FROM FEBRUARY 10th TO MARCH 1st, 1853.

Abram Wright's note and interest,	$ 78 74	
Payments as by book,	378 75	
Balance paid to S. D. Fletcher, now Treasurer,	585 30	
		$1,042 79

RECEIPTS BY S. D. FLETCHER, TREASURER.

Balance as above,		$585 30
Cash borrowed of Asaph B. Cutter,	$150 00	
" " John Osgood,	450 00	
" " John Abbot,	200 00	
		800 00
Cash received of the State (School Fund),		72 25
" " " (Paupers),		28 34
" " Stony Brook Railroad (Dividends),		30 00
" " Overseers of the Poor,		90 00
" " T. P. Wright, Collector prior to October 6, 1853,		2,478 68
" " " " " December 6, 1853,		701 82
" " " " after December 6, 1853,		1,020 33
" " Edward Prescott, Collector for 1851,		62 28
" " " " 1852,		75 75
" " " " Interest on taxes,		7 00
" " D. C. Butterfield, Liquor Agent,		45 00
" " from all other sources,		1 31
Amounting to		$5,998 06

PAYMENTS.

Paid Betsy Prescott, note and interest,	$427 88
John Abbot,	204 59
John Osgood,	472 37
Oliver Wright,	104 18
A. B Cutter,	157 50
Interest on notes,	34 50
County Tax, 1853, in full,	814 08
State Tax, " "	414 00
Orders,	2,404 45
Balance in Treasurer's hands,	964 51
	$5,998 06

Your Committee further Report, that the Town is indebted to the following named persons:—

Jesse Wright, note and interest,	$394 31	
Mrs. Sally Adams,	104 13	
John Osgood,	303 30	
		$801 74

LIABILITIES.

Outstanding orders,	$ 1 27	
Other claims estimated at	150 00	
Due several School Districts,	895 05	
Due Master of the Poor-House,	222 00	
		1,268 32
Amounting to		$2,070 06

RESOURCES.

Balance in the Treasurer's hands,	$964 51	
Five Shares in Stony Brook Railroad,	500 00	
Dividend due on said Shares,	7 50	
Due from the State for the support of Paupers,	34 35	
" the City of Boston for the support of Paupers,	15 00	
" D. C. Butterfield, Collector for 1850,	17 00	
" E. Prescott, " 1851,	13 78	
" E. Prescott, " 1852,	8 90	
" T. P. Wright, " 1853,	12 63	
		1,573 67
Leaving a balance against the Town amounting to		$496 39
Amount of Debt February, 1853,	$896 12	
" " 1854,	496 39	
Debt diminished,	$399 73	

J. W. P. ABBOT,
CYRUS HAMLIN, } Committee.
LEVI SNOW,

SHERMAN D. FLETCHER, Town Treasurer.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen of the Town of Westford, for the year ending March 6th, 1854, make the following Report.—

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES, INCLUDING COMPENSATION OF TOWN OFFICERS.

Claims due prior to March 7th, 1853.—

Paid Butler & Webster, on Bethiah Prescott case,	$50 00
D. A. Dow for doctoring at the Poor-House,	21 92
J. M. Stickney for doctoring Mrs. Patch, in 1851,	10 00
Joseph Bailey for posting warrants and serving notices,	5 70
Joseph Bailey, agent for selling liquor,	8 42
Asa Prescott, abatement of tax in 1852,	2 58
Benjamin Osgood, for doctoring at the Poor-House in 1852,	8 60
Amos Day for mowing brush on the road in 1851,	1 00
Town of Andover for Anna Ames in "	10 81
Elias Sweetser for stone guide-post in "	2 00
Elias Sweetser for wood furnished M. P. Cowdry in 1851,	3 00
Amos Leighton for repairing plough and breaking roads in 1853,	3 27
B. V. Lyon for putting up railing on Groton road, repairing road and shoveling snow in 1852,	5 95
First Parish for tolling bell for funerals and deaths,	7 50
Union Society for tolling bell for funerals and deaths,	7 50
J. B. Fletcher for damage done to sleigh in 1852,	10 00
William Chandler for appraising property at Poor-Farm, 1852,	2 00
William Chandler for work done on Dunstable road, "	4 00
S. J. Varney for printing Reports for "	8 50
A. B. Cutter for use of horse-waggon in "	7 00
Amos Heywood for cash to Mrs. Taylor and getting Reports,	3 25
Levi Snow for repairing grave-yard gate,	50
Levi Snow for numbering scholars in District No. 2,	1 00
Solomon Richardson for appraising property at the Poor-House,	2 00
" " numbering scholars in District No. 1,	1 00
" " making a Report on settlement with the Treasurer,	1 00
Elisha Bunce for numbering scholars in District No. 6,	1 00
George Kidder for numbering scholars in District No. 5,	1 00
R. J. Taylor for " " " No. 4,	1 00
Amount carried forward,	$191 50

Amount brought forward,	$191 50

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES AFTER MARCH 7th, 1853.

Paid First Parish for the use of the Town Hall, and fuel,	34 00
S. J. Varney for blanks,	1 25
T. B. Hildreth for repairing and painting guide-boards,	4 90
S. & S. D. Fletcher for postage and stationery,	2 94
Terrance McGuire for damage of horse, waggon, and harness,	150 00
John Cutter, 2nd, for services as School Committee,	18 00
J. W. P. Abbot " " "	18 25
Joseph Hildreth " " "	25 00
Daniel Falls for cutting brush in the north burying-yard,	2 00
Amos Day for cutting brush in the south burying-yard,	3 00
John H. Young for burying a horse found dead,	2 00
Ephraim Wright for two coffins for paupers,	7 00
Amos Day for digging a grave for a pauper,	1 00
Levi Snow for digging a grave for a pauper,	1 50
Oliver Woodward for numbering scholars in District No. 7,	1 00
R. J. Taylor for numbering scholars in District No. 4,	1 00
A. W. Hildreth paid Express and for Stationery,	2 22
Amos Heywood for money paid witnesses for attending Court on the case of Parkhurst *vs.* Westford,	108 00
Amos Heywood for his services on second case,	24 70
A. B. Cutter for use of horse-waggon,	7 00
D. C. Butterfield for liquors,	44 78
" " appraising property at the Poor-Farm,	1 50
" " entertaining Com. to settle with Treasurer,	2 50
" " Town officers,	6 00
" " going to examine records,	4 00
" " entertaining Town Officers,	3 50
" " going to Nashua to see John Reed,	4 00
" " going to examine the flowing the meadow on the Poor-Farm,	2 25
Joseph Hildreth paid express on books and envelops,	1 55
" " for making report of schools,	1 00
" " paid postage and for stationery,	1 75
" " runing town lines,	6 00
" " letting out road in Tadmuck Swamp,	1 00
" " taking invoice and making taxes 28 days,	35 50
" " entertaining Assessors,	10 00
" " viewing and laying out road, on petition of W. Chandler,	1 00
" " viewing and laying out road on petition of G. S. Frederick,	1 00
" " paid J. Abbot, Esq., for administering oath on S. P. act.,	25
" " for room for School Committee, three times,	1 00
" " services as Selectman,	5 00
" " services as Town Clerk,	12 00
" " recording forty-two births,	8 40
" " recording twenty-six deaths,	3 90
" " recording six marriages,	60
" " time spent about Mr. Nichols and Miss Hunstable,	2 00
" " making out this Report,	3 00
Amount carried forward,	$766 74

Amount brought forward,	$766 74
Paid T. P. Wright for collecting taxes,	38 53
T. A. Blodgett for taking invoice and making taxes 12 days,	15 00
" " perambulating town line,	2 00
" " seeing about the road in Tadmuck Swamp,	1 00
" " viewing and laying out road, petitioned for by Wm. Chandler and others, andG. S. Frederick and others,	2 00
" " services as selectman,	5 00
N. S. Hamblin, for posting notices for town meetings,	1 00
Ezekiel Wright for running town lines,	5 75
" " going to Andover to settle Anna Ames' bill,	2 88
" " laying out roads,	1 00
" " going to Boston about State paupers,	3 05
" " going to Groton about John Campnall, twice,	2 00
" " cash paid for provisions for Campnall,	2 86
" " services as Selectman,	5 00
	$853 81

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid Benjamin A. Reed for repairing road in Tadmuck Swamp,	$99 00
George Laws for repairing said road, afterwards,	50 00
Bela Wright for work on highways,	10 00
Reuben Wright for work on Hollis road,	24 25
Daniel Falls for mowing brush from N. B. Yard to Hall field,	8 00
S. N. Burbeck for work on highways,	5 44
	$196 69

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Edward Prescott, Collector in 1851,	$21 28
" " " 1852,	26 64
T. P. Wright, " 1853,	26 58
Edward Symmes, highway tax in 1852,	2 50
John Tower, " " 1852,	46
B. M. Fletcher " " "	88
J. W. P. Abbot, abatement of tax in 1853,	1 00
Caleb Wight, " " "	79
William Chandler, poll tax "	1 50
	$81 63

SCHOOLS.

Sum raised by the town in 1853,	$1,200 00
Received from State,	72 25

One half the sum of $636 12 divided among ten Districts, gives each $63 61. The balance, $636 13, divided equally among five hundred and fifty-nine scholars in town, gives each scholar $1 14.

District	No. 1	has	144	scholars,	and	receives	$164 16	⋈	$63 61	=$227 77
"	" 2	"	72	"	"	"	82 08	⋈	"	= 145 69
"	" 3	"	31	"	"	"	35 34	⋈	"	= 98 95
"	" 4	"	48	"	"	"	54 72	⋈	"	= 117 33
"	" 5	"	50	"	"	"	57 00	⋈	"	= 120 61
"	" 6	"	57	"	"	"	64 98	⋈	"	= 128 59
"	" 7	"	62	"	"	"	70 68	⋈	"	= 134 29
"	" 8	"	28	"	"	"	31 92	⋈	"	= 95 53
"	" 9	"	40	"	"	"	45 60	⋈	"	= 109 21
"	" 10	"	27	"	"	"	30 78	⋈	"	= 94 39
										$1,272 36

RECAPITULATION.

Money raised for Town debts and charges,	$1,800 00
County Tax,	814 09
State Tax,	414 00
Fractional parts,	86 00
Highway tax returned unworked,	50 48
	$3,164 57
No. of Polls, 380.	
Paid claims due prior to March 7th, 1853,	$191 50
" for incidental expenses after March 7th,	662 31
Roads and Bridges,	196 69
Taxes ordered,	81 13
	$1,131 63

JOSEPH HILDRETH,
EZEKIEL WRIGHT,
THADEUS A. BLODGETT, } Selectmen of Westford.

OVERSEERS' OF POOR REPORT.

The Overseers of the Poor submit the following Report, for the support of the Poor from February 7th, 1853, to February 7th, 1854 :—

Amount of personal property at the Poor-House, including farming-tools, stock, &c., as by appraisal of the Committee February 7th, 1853,	$1,307 15
Appraised February 7th, 1854,	1,373 53
	$ 66 38

Received from income of farm, as by A. B. Cutter's book :—

For Beef (2½ cows),	$ 75 75
Butter (seven hundred and forty pounds)	158 29
Horse,	25 00
Seven Calves,	38 50
Milk,	3 00
Pork and Bacon,	59 87
Lard,	4 10
Chickens and Eggs,	11 69
Potatoes,	12 62
Vinegar,	9 76
Hay and Straw,	136 19
Work done off the farm,	10 48
Old Iron,	4 00
Garden sauce,	10 50
Cranberries,	30 00
Timber and Plank,	30 20
Oats,	11 25
Calf-skin,	50
Amos Heywood, for work,	2 50
A. M. Bond, "	2 00
" " for Potatoes,	1 00
George Sargent,	2 00
D. A. Dow,	1 00
S. P. Wright, for plank,	4 58
Orders,	33 25
	$678 03

A. B. Cutter has paid, as by his book, the following sums :—

To S. & S. D. Fletcher	$41 01
D. C. Mead,	31 26
D. C. Butterfield,	11 51
Nichols & Co.,	61 78
A. W. Hildreth,	3 80
Charles Chandler for work,	78 50
George Sargent for painting,	12 80
Ancil Davis for mason-work,	4 00
Nancy Tidd for work,	31 50
Amount carried forward,	$276 16

Amount brought forward,	$276 16
To work done by others,	19 68
Edward Symmes for repairing clock,	75
Pasturing oxen and two cows,	15 50
Truss,	3 00
Medicine,	10 75
Grain,	37 26
Four cows,	84 50
Six pigs,	45 50
Stove and pipe,	4 87
Shoes and shoe mending,	5 17
Grass seed,	5 81
Bush-scythe and sneath, $2 75; cranberry rake, $1 50,	4 25
Sundries, $28 70; Edward Prescott, $1 75,	30 45
Spencer for James,	2 00
Lime, $1 00; bread, $2 84; meat, $2 03,	5 87
Salt and plough point, $1 66; one pair of shears, $0 42,	2 08
T. P. Wright's bill for work,	9 79
Ira Leland's bill,	10 81
S. P. Wright for work,	4 75
Levi Prescott for ox-work,	1 00
Horse-waggon the last summer,	7 00
Paid into the Town Treasury,	90 00
	$676 95

The Overseers have drawn from the Treasury the following sums:—

To A. B. Cutter, master of the Poor-House,	$250 00
The town of Groton for John Campnall,	17 86
Solomon Nutting for taking the Lane twins,	40 00
Levi Snow for digging grave,	1 50
Amos Day for digging grave,	1 00
Ezekiel Wright for services as Overseer,	5 00
" " going to Boston about State pauper bill,	3 05
" " " Groton about J. Campnall,	2 00
Joseph Hildreth for services as Overseer,	5 00
Thadeus A. Blodgett, for services as Overseer,	5 00
Outstanding claims,	10 00
	$340 41
Amount paid by A. B. Cutter,	676 95
	$1,017 36

A. B. Cutter paid into the Treasury,	$ 90 00	
Produce of the farm,	644 83	
Due from the State,	33 35	
Due from the City of Boston,	15 00	
Gain on personal property,	66 38	
		849 56
		$167 80

Cost of supporting the Poor, exclusive of interest on the farm from February 7th, 1853, to February 7th, 1854, has been $167 80

JOSEPH HILDRETH,
EZEKIEL WRIGHT,
THADEUS A. BLODGETT, } Overseers of the Poor of Westford.